

wherein the at least one of the object tables is supported by a third balance mass that is substantially independent from the first and second balance masses.

24. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a short stroke frame ~~positioned over said first and said second balance masses and supported by a plurality of bearings~~ said support structure.

25. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 24, wherein said short stroke frame is movable in the first direction and a second direction perpendicular to said first direction ~~and rotatable around a third direction perpendicular to said first and said second directions.~~


26. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the ~~first object table~~ at least one of the object tables is driven relative to said short stroke frame ~~to position said mask~~ in six degrees of freedom.

27. (New) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the at least one of the object tables comprises the first object table.

28. (New) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the at least one of the object tables comprises the second object table.

29. (New) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first of the cooperating electromagnetic members comprises a coil and the second of the cooperating electromagnetic members comprises a magnet.

30. (New) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first of the cooperating electromagnetic members comprises a magnet and the second of the cooperating electromagnetic members comprises a coil.

31. (New) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first and second motors are configured to exert forces on said first and second balance masses in opposite directions to effect rotation of said at least one of the object tables .